

## Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

ACDE-00 /026 W

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P R 271720Z APR 76

FM USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3045

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 0126

EXDIS/SALT

DEPT ALSO PASS DOD

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: JOHNSON-SEMOV PRIVATE MEETING APRIL 27 (SALT TWO-991)

REF: SALT TWO-982

1. IN PRIVATE MEETING TODAY TO FOLLOW UP ON PROPOSAL FOR EXPERTS DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONS RELATING TO CONVERSION TO MIRVS, (PARA 6 REFTEL), SEMENOV FLATLY REJECTED SAYING HE THOUGHT WE SHOULD STICK TO OUR REGULAR PROCEDURE OF FIRST TABLING PROPOSED LANGUAGE. HOWEVER, WE BOTH AGREED THAT ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH ON CONVERSION WAS NEEDED FOR ARTICLE VI.

2. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION, IN RESPONSE TO HIS EXHORTATION THAT "WE SHOULD MOVE AHEAD," I SAID THAT I AGREED AND ASKED WHETHER THIS MEANT HE NOW AGREED WE SHOULD REFER HEAVY MISSILE CAP TO DRAFTING GROUP, TO WHICH HE IN EFFECT RESPONDED THAT THEY WERE NOT WILLING TO MOVE ON THIS UNTIL "LIGHT" AND "NON-HEAVY" PROBLEM OF HEAVY MISSILE DEFINITION WAS SETTLED. (IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE HAS NO INTEREST WHATEVER IN ANY SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE FOR

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THIS ISSUE, BUT WILL CONTINUE TO INSIST UPON "LIGHT".) IN

RESPONSE TO HIS SUGGESTION THAT WE AGREE ON DRAFT ARTICLE XV (SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS) BRACKETING "POSSIBLE" IN "POSSIBLE REDUCTIONS," I SAID THAT IF HE WOULD AGREE TO DROP "POSSIBLE" I WAS PREPARED IMMEDIATELY TO AGREE ON THEIR DRAFT AS IT NOW STOOD. WHEN HE DEMURRED, I THAT THAT IS "POSSIBLE" WAS GOING TO REMAIN I WOULD DROP MY OFFER, BECAUSE, IN THIS EVENT, I WOULD WANT TO MAKE OTHER CHANGES IN THE DRAFT. HE MADE HIS USUAL PITCH ON ARTICLES XII AND XIII (NON-CIRCUMVENTION AND NON-TRANSFER), TO WHICH I MADE MY USUAL RESPONSE.

3. I THEN TOOK INITIATIVE TO MOVE IN ON DATA BASE. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY WELL PREPARED FOR THIS CONTINGENCY AND, READING FROM EXTENSIVE TYPEWRITTEN NOTES, REPEATED THEIR PREVIOUS POSITIONS IN EFFECT SAYING THAT BECAUSE HE HAD NOW BEEN "INSTRUCTED BY MOSCOW" MATTER WAS CLOSED, TO WHICH I, OF COURSE, RESPONDED THAT I WAS SURE HE WOULD LISTEN TO OUR CONSIDERATIONS AND THAT I WOULD RETURN TO SUBJECT MORE EXTENSIVELY AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING. HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO REAFFIRM THEIR POSITION ON THIS IN TOMORROW'S PLENARY STATEMENT. HE ALSO SAID THAT IN TOMORROW'S STATEMENT THEY WOULD OFFER TEXT FOR COVERING "CONVERSION" IN ARTICLE XVII (SCC PROCEDURES). READING FROM NOTES, HE ALSO REJECTED PROPOSAL TO EXCHANGE DESIGNATIONS OF TEST RANGES. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY PREPARED FOR MY RESPONSE ON RECENT AMBIGUITY ARISING FROM FACT ABM TEST RANGES HAD NOT BEEN DESIGNATED; HE SAID THAT THESE WERE CLEARLY KIND OF MATTERS THAT SHOULD BE LEFT TO SCC AND NOT DEALT WITH AT SALT NEGOTIATING LEVEL. TO DO SO OTHERWISE WOULD VIOLATE THE PRINCIPLE OF NTM, WHICH IS THE "HOLY OF HOLIES" OF SALT. JOHNSON

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